

Attachment 1

Historic Resources and Project Design-EIR Development Guidance

concerning the Recreational Sports-Capital Improvements and Acquisition-911 Green Alley, Monroe Park Campus, Virginia Commonwealth University, City of Richmond (Agency Code 236, Project Codes 17405-001 & 17037- 007, DEQ 07-106S)

Issues identified by DHR (attached April 27, 2007 letter) and the City (attached April 11, 2007 letter) in response to the review of the amended proposal were provided to VCU as guidance in the preparation of the 2007 EIR. It was recommended by DEQ-OEIR that the historic resources and project design issues identified by DHR and the City be included in EIR's analysis of project impacts. These issues included the following:

- Project impacts to the historic resources in the study area, including the visual effects on historic properties for each proposed alternative.
- Identification of alternative strategies to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts, including:
 - rehabilitation treatment plans for historic structures according to the *Secretary of Interior Standards*;
 - design alternatives to limit physical impact to historic structures, particularly the City Market/Auditorium;
 - alternatives to the loss of the two historic structures on Green Alley, to include potential incorporation into the Recreation Center design as well as relocation options that may be available for one or both of the structures; and
 - ongoing, iterative consultations with DHR to develop design strategies for the proposed Recreation Center consistent with the historic urban context of the site and to insure a design that is sensitive to the character-defining elements of this context, in particular the City Market/Auditorium building.
- The project potential to affect archeological sites within the study area.
- The effect of closing Green Alley on pedestrian and vehicle connectivity and circulation.

An impact analysis of the proposed project was recommended for the following resources:

- Historic Districts
 - VCU Monroe Park Historic District;
 - Oregon Hill Historic District.

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- Individual Properties
 - City Market/Auditorium;
 - 911 Green Alley;
 - 917 Green Alley; and
 - 130 South Cherry Street (the Commonwealth holds an easement interest).
- Historic Grid and Circulation System
 - Green Alley;
 - South Cherry Street;
 - South Linden Street; and
 - Cary Street.
- Residences
 - South Cherry Street facing the proposed project area; and
 - Canal Street backing the proposed project area.

Finally, it was recommended that the EIR should include building elevations and floor plans for review.